



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Nobuaki HASHIMOTO ✓

Group Art Unit: 2827

Application No.: 09/807,601 ✓

Examiner: J. Alcala

Filed: April 16, 2001 ✓

Docket No.: 109279

For: INTERCONNECT SUBSTRATE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE THEREOF,
ELECTRONIC COMPONENT AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE THEREOF,
CIRCUIT BOARD AND ELECTRONIC INSTRUMENT

#9
Election
J. McMillan
9/20/02

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the August 23, 2002 Restriction/Election of Species Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-22 drawn to a printed circuit board with an electronic device, and elects Specie 1 with the embodiment shown in Fig. 2 on which claims 1-5, 7 and 8 are readable. Applicant elects Group I, Specie 1 with traverse. Moreover, Applicant asserts that claim 1 is generic to all Species 1-8.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-39 and species 1-8 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims and species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims and Species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should

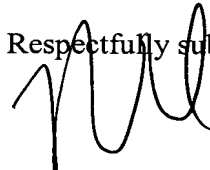
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apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction/Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, should it be determined that claim 1 is allowable, Applicant asserts that the claims reading on the non-elected Species must be rejoined with the elected Species since claim 1 is generic to all Species.

Respectfully submitted,



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